

B/ - - The present invention provides an immunogenically active component comprising inactivated *Sarcocystis neurona* cells and/or inactivated *Neospora hughesi* cells; antigens derived therefrom; DNA derived therefrom; or a mixture; or in combination with other vaccine components; thereof. Further provided are vaccine compositions useful for preventing or ameliorating equine protozoal myeloencephalitis infection and disease and a method for the cell culture propagation of protozoan parasites. - -

In the Specification

Kindly amend the specification as follows:

On page 11, line 15, before the phrase "PLURONIC polyols" , insert:

B2 [-]polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymer[-]

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application and claims 1-23 is respectfully requested.

The Abstract was originally objected to (in the Office Action mailed September 25, 2001) for being in an inappropriate 2 paragraph format; and, the specification was objected to for not always indicating the trade mark sign or alternatively for failing to use accompanying generic terminology.

An Amendment by applicants was therefore made and submitted to the PTO in December, 2001, but the form of that Amendment has now (Office Action mailed March 25, 2002) been deemed "non-compliant" in that:

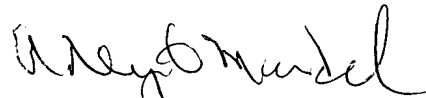
- "1. A clean version of the replacement paragraph(s)/section(s) is required. See 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(ii).
2. A marked-up version of the replacement paragraph(s)/section(s) is required. See 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(iii). "

Applicants have now traversed the "Notice" comprising the outstanding Office Action with the corrected amendments hereinabove indicated, comprising a clean version of the

replaced/rewritten paragraph of the Abstract, and a marked-up version of the Abstract attached hereto; as well as, repeating/rephrasing of the amendment on page 11, together with a marked-up version of page 11, attached hereto

In view of the remarks and amendments hereinabove made it is respectfully submitted that this application and claims 1-23, is now in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. Reconsideration and an early allowance is therefor earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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1×10^4 inactivated *Sarcocystis* Spp. cells or *Neospora* Spp. cells or a mixture thereof, preferably at least about 1×10^6 cells, are suitable.

As used in the specification and claims, the term
5 "immunogenically stimulating adjuvant" designates a compound which is capable of potentiating or stimulating the immune response in a subject animal when administered in combination with the immunogenically active component of the invention. Examples of an immunogenically
10 stimulating adjuvant suitable for use in the vaccine composition of the invention include: surfactants such as hexadecylamine, octadecylamine, lysolecithin, dimethyl dioctadecyl ammonium bromide, N,N-dioctadecyl-N'-N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl-propane diamine), methoxyhexadecylglycerol,
15 polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymer (e.g., PLURONIC® polyols), saponin, Quil® A, or the like; polyanions such as pyran, dextran sulfate, polynucleotide complex of polyinosinicpolycytidylic acid, polyacrylic acid, carboxypolymethylenes and carboxyvinyl polymers
20 such as CARBOPOL®, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, or the like; peptides such as muramyl dipeptide, dimethyl glycine, tuftsin or the like; oil emulsions; immunomodulators such as interleukin-1, interleukin-2, interleukin-12, GM-CSF or the like; or a
25 combination thereof. A preferred immunogenically stimulating adjuvant suitable for use in the vaccine composition of the invention is a mixture of squalane and a polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene block copolymer (e.g., Pluronic® L121, BASF, Parsippany, NJ) capable of forming
30 small liposomes. The immunogenically stimulating adjuvant may be present in the vaccine composition of the